

20 June 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Imagery Analysis

SUBJECT: Comments on Your Question About Our Experience Related
to the Need for Imagery Analysts to be Collocated
with us at Headquarters for the Conduct of Quality
analysis of Soviet [REDACTED] Developments 25X1

1. I have always thought how great and convenient it would be if [REDACTED] functions were carried out here at Agency Headquarters. 25X1
We would be able to save traveling time by our analysts, make general communications a lot easier, foster a better working relationship, and allow all analysts to share more equally in the "glory" of the job. But I believe anything short of having the whole of OIA here would not be beneficial in the long term. On balance, our experiences show us it is not necessary for the imagery analysts covering the relatively large Soviet [REDACTED] developments to be collocated with the technology and systems analysts here at Headquarters. While collocating the imagery analysts at Headquarters would certainly lead the technical and systems analysts to be more aware of current developments in photography of [REDACTED] sites, this advantage would not offset the likely long-term detrimental effects of separating these imagery analysts from the main body of OIA analysts and facilities. [REDACTED] 25X1

2. We have not found it an insurmountable problem to be separated because the [REDACTED] imagery analysts are well tuned to our needs and the signatures in this area, and have a good general understanding of the physics and engineering we are addressing, and because the OIA, OSI, and OWI analysts have developed good, open communications. A reasonable number of visits between Headquarters and [REDACTED] analysts has been the only price we have had to pay. [REDACTED] 25X1

3. We feel that if the imagery analysts were collocated with us here at Headquarters they would be cut off from the organization (OIA) that nurtures their professional development and keeps them on top of their discipline. The special libraries, files, measuring equipment, and interaction with other imagery analysts would not be available to them. Many of the technologies (aircraft, missiles, and gas dynamics) related to R&D on directed energy weapons are also worked on by imagery 25X1

[REDACTED] TOP SECRET [REDACTED] 25X1

25X1

SUBJECT: Comments on Your Question About Our Experience Related to the
Need for Imagery Analysts to be Collocated with us at Head-
quarters for the Conduct of Quality Analysis of Soviet
[redacted] Developments

25X1

analysts other than those in the [redacted] area, and these other
analysts have, on many occasions, shared their knowledge and experience
with the [redacted] imagery analysts. Overall, we feel that col-
locating imagery analysts at Headquarters would cut them off from the
mainstream of photointerpretation, and if they stayed away from their
parent organization too long we would begin to question their overall
ability to do their regular, high quality imagery analysis. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

25X1

[redacted]

25X1

Chairman

NFAC [redacted] Coordinating Team

25X1

Distribution

Orig - D/IA

1 - C/ASTB

OSI/MTD/ASTB [redacted] (19 June 1979)

25X1

[redacted]

TOP SECRET

[redacted]

25X1

25X1